

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	§	
Lowry, et al.	§	
Serial No.: Continuation of 09/832,970	§	Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: Herewith	§	Examiner: Unknown
For: XML-BASED INTEGRATED	§	
SERVICES FRAMEWORK	§	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box NEW APPLICATION

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified patent application please enter the following:

Inventorship:

Please delete the following inventors from the application:

Helaman Ferguson, Dave Pratt, Junying Fan, Preston Stephenson, Rod Meiners, and Moray King.

In the specification:

Please change the title from "XML-BASED INTEGRATED SERVICES FRAMEWORK" to -- XML-BASED INTEGRATED SERVICES EVENT SYSTEM --.

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph, please add the following

--CROSS REFERENCE

This application is a Continuation of U. S. Serial Number 09/832,970, filed April 11, 2001, which is a Continuation of U. S. Serial Number 09/741,678, filed December 19, 2000. --

On page 2, line 25, please delete the first two paragraphs of the Summary and insert the following:

-- In response to these and other problems, an improved system and method is provided for an event system in a distributed directory-enabled environment using an eXtensible Markup Language ("XML") application program interface. The interface includes at least one event delineated by an event parameter, where the event defines an object delineated by an object property and an object parameter.

The method defines at least one subscription filter which allows a subscriber to selectively filter the event. The event is published and a subscriber list is retrieved which includes a subscriber and the filter. The subscriber and the filter are selected from the list and the event is filtered through the filter. Subscription to the event occurs if the event passes through the filter and the subscriber may perform actions on the event after subscription. --

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 2-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

21. (New) A method for providing an event system in a distributed directory-enabled application environment using an eXtensible Markup Language ("XML") application program interface, the interface including at least one event delineated by an event parameter, the event defining an object delineated by an object property and an object parameter, the method comprising:

defining at least one subscription filter allowing a subscriber to selectively filter the event;
publishing the event;
retrieving a subscriber list, the list including the subscriber and the subscription filter;
selecting the subscriber and the subscription filter from the list;
filtering the event through the subscription filter;
passing the event to the subscriber if the event passes through the subscription filter; and
acting on the event.

22. (New) The method of claim 21 further including filtering the event through an event filter based on the event parameter.

23. (New) The method of claim 22 further including acting on the event by altering the event parameter, so that the event is transformed through the alteration.

24. (New) The method of claim 21 further including filtering the event through an object filter, whereby the event is filtered based on the object property.

25. (New) The method of claim 24 further including acting on the event by altering the object property, so that the event is transformed through the alteration.

26. (New) The method of claim 21 further including filtering the event through a parameter filter, whereby the event is filtered based on the object parameter.

27. (New) The method of claim 26 further including acting on the event by altering the object parameter, so that the event is transformed through the alteration.

28. (New) The method of claim 21 further including acting on the event by terminating the event, so that the event is stopped by the termination.

29. (New) The method of claim 21 further including tracking the event, whereby information about the event may be gathered.

30. (New) The method of claim 29 further including generating reports from the gathered information, so that the information about the event may be compiled.

31. (New) A computer system for providing an event system in a distributed directory-enabled application environment using an eXtensible Markup Language ("XML") application program interface, the interface including at least one event delineated by an event parameter, the event defining an object delineated by an object property and an object parameter, the system comprising:

at least one processor;

at least one memory accessible to the processor;

a first application stored in a first portion of the memory;

a second application stored in a second portion of the memory;
defining at least one subscription filter allowing a subscriber to selectively filter the event;
publishing the event by the first application;
retrieving a subscriber list, the list including the subscriber and the filter;
selecting the subscriber and the filter from the list;
filtering the event through the filter;
subscribing to the event by the second application if the event passes through the filter;
and
acting on the event by the second application.

32. (New) The computer system of claim 31 further including instructions for filtering the event through an event filter, whereby the event is filtered based on the event parameter.

33. (New) The computer system of claim 32 further including instructions for acting on the event by altering the event parameter, so that the event is transformed through the alteration.

34. (New) The computer system of claim 31 further including instructions for filtering the event through an object filter, whereby the event is filtered based on the object property.

35. (New) The computer system of claim 34 further including instructions for acting on the event by altering the object property, so that the event is transformed through the alteration.

36. (New) The computer system of claim 31 further including instructions for filtering the event through a parameter filter, whereby the event is filtered based on the object parameter.

37. (New) The computer system of claim 36 further including instructions for acting on the event by altering the object parameter, so that the event is transformed through the alteration.

38. (New) The computer system of claim 31 further including instructions for acting on the event by terminating the event, so that the event is stopped by the termination.

39. (New) The computer system of claim 31 further including instructions for tracking the event, whereby information about the event may be gathered.

40. (New) The computer system of claim 39 further including instructions for generating reports from the gathered information, so that the information about the event may be compiled.

In the Abstract:

Please delete the Abstract paragraph in its entirety and add the following:

-- An improved system, method and software program is provided for distributed directory-enabled applications using an XML API. The improvement provides an event system, a parser, and a bridge-based object model.

The event system includes the ability to publish an event, subscribe to the event, and act on the event. The parser enables the XML API to parse XML files by accepting an XML file as an input stream, parsing the input stream, dynamically loading system services referenced in the input stream, and configuring the services. The bridge-based object model utilizes thread safeness, which enables a bridge to use semaphore access control to control thread access, smart pointers, which enable a bridge to automatically manage the memory it requires, and opaque interfaces, which allow a bridge to maintain interface compatibility when implementation changes occur in an interface. --

REMARKS

The number of inventors has been reduced to better reflect the inventorship of the present application.

The Title, Summary and Abstract have been changed.

Claims 2 – 20 have been deleted. New claims 21 – 40 have been added.

The filing fee has been calculated according to the above amendments.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding the amendments, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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This paper and fee are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231	
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RE-WRITTEN SPECIFICATION MARKED UP TO SHOW ALL CHANGES
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. 1.121(b)

In the Title:

XML-BASED INTEGRATED SERVICES [FRAMEWORK] EVENT SYSTEM

XML-BASED INTEGRATED SERVICES EVENT SYSTEM

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XML-BASED INTEGRATED SERVICES EVENT SYSTEM

Cross Reference

This application is a Continuation of U. S. Serial Number 09/832,970,
5 filed April 11, 2001, which is a Continuation of U. S. Serial Number
09/741,678, filed December 19, 2000.

Background

This invention relates generally to computer software and, more
10 specifically, to a system and method for providing distributed, directory-
enabled applications using an eXtensible Markup Language ("XML")
application program interface ("API") framework.

Personal computers or workstations may be linked in a computer
network to facilitate the sharing of data, applications, files, and other
15 resources. One common type of computer network is a client/server network,
where some computers act as servers and others as clients. In a client/server
network, the sharing of resources is accomplished through the use of one or
more servers. Each server includes a processing unit that is dedicated to
managing centralized resources and to sharing these resources with other
20 servers and/or various personal computers and workstations, which are
known as the "clients" of the server.

Different software applications are available through the server to the
clients as network resources. The clients may also utilize "standalone"
applications, which may be installed only on a client and not available
25 through the network. The applications may perform a variety of tasks, such
as word processing, email, web browsing, and many more. The applications
may be written in a variety of programming languages as long as the

applications are compiled to function on the underlying operating systems used by the server and the clients.

Each application is constructed using a native API that provides a set of routines, protocols, and tools. This set provides the building blocks that
5 allow programmers to enable the applications which use the API to communicate with the operating system and other programs. Large applications such as operating systems may have hundreds of API calls to provide other applications the interfaces needed for effective communication and access to the operating system's services. Smaller applications may have
10 a very limited set of API calls.

Because APIs are constructed for a specific application in a given programming language and targeted at a particular platform or operating system, they generally cannot be used as an interface for another application without making nontrivial modifications. In addition, such highly specific
15 APIs make it difficult for applications to communicate if, for example, the applications were written using different programming languages or for use on different operating systems.

It is desired to provide an XML integrated services ("XIS") framework utilizing a flexible, cross-protocol, cross-language API for distributed
20 directory-enabled applications by providing both a high level of interactivity and modular dynamic components with a common object model for both clients and servers.

Summary

25 In response to these and other problems, an improved system and method is provided for an event system in a distributed directory-enabled environment using an eXtensible Markup Language ("XML") application program interface. The interface includes at least one event delineated by an event parameter, where the event defines an object delineated by an object

property and an object parameter.

The method defines at least one subscription filter which allows a subscriber to selectively filter the event. The event is published and a subscriber list is retrieved which includes a subscriber and the filter. The
5 subscriber and the filter are selected from the list and the event is filtered through the filter. Subscription to the event occurs if the event passes through the filter and the subscriber may perform actions on the event after subscription. --

Brief Description of the Figures

10 Fig. 1 illustrates the interaction of three applications through their respective APIs.

Fig. 2 is a simple system illustrating a possible implementation of an XIS API framework.

Fig. 3 is a diagram illustrating one embodiment of an XIS API
15 providing interaction between various applications.

Fig. 4 is an exemplary illustration of an XIS architectural framework.

Fig. 5 is a flowchart of a possible parsing sequence for one embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 6 is a flowchart of an event sequence in an exemplary event
20 system.

Fig. 7 is a flowchart illustrating a method by which a tag manager may resolve tag duality issues in one embodiment.

Fig. 8 is a flowchart illustrating an exemplary process for implementing thread safeness through a bridge.

25 Fig. 9 is a block diagram demonstrating a service performing a cross-protocol transformation.

Fig. 10 is one embodiment of a memory management scheme.

Fig. 11 is a flowchart demonstrating a basic style sheet selection sequence.

XML-BASED INTEGRATED SERVICES FRAMEWORK

Abstract

An improved system, method and software program is provided for distributed directory-enabled applications using an XML API. The
5 improvement provides an event system, a parser, and a bridge-based object model.

The event system includes the ability to publish an event, subscribe to the event, and act on the event. The parser enables the XML API to parse XML files by accepting an XML file as an input stream, parsing the input
10 stream, dynamically loading system services referenced in the input stream, and configuring the services. The bridge-based object model utilizes thread safeness, which enables a bridge to use semaphore access control to control thread access, smart pointers, which enable a bridge to automatically manage the memory it requires, and opaque interfaces, which allow a bridge to
15 maintain interface compatibility when implementation changes occur in an interface.